

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-05 NSF-02 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12

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IO/CMD - MR. STOKES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 175907

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OCON, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 59TH ECOSOC - AGENDA ITEM 22 (CONFERENCE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY)

REF: GENEVA 5847; STATE 167134

1. WE AT LOSS TO UNDERSTAND POINT OF DRAFT RES REPORTED
REFTEL. WE DO NOT SEE HOW ECOSOC COULD REASONABLY TAKE
DECISION (IN PRINCIPLE OR OTHERWISE) ON QUESTION OF CONVEN-
ING UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ABSENCE
EXAMINATION OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA OF SUCH CONFERENCE. IN
ANY EVENT, WE SEE NO RELATION BETWEEN 60TH OR 61ST SESSION
CONSIDERATION AND PREPARATORY WORK WHICH, IN ANY EVENT, CAN
NOT REALLY GET UNDERWAY UNTIL AFTER GA TAKES DECISION ON
WHETHER OR NOT TO CONVENE CONFERENCE.

2. AS THINGS NOW STAND, REPORT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORK-
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ING GROUP, WHICH MET IN APRIL TO CONSIDER QUESTION OF PRO-

POSED CONFERENCE, WILL BE CONSIDERED BY CSTD AT ITS 3RD SESSION IN FEBRUARY 1976. CSTD REPORT WILL THEN IN ORDINARY COURSE OF EVENTS BE CONSIDERED BY ECOSOC AT ITS 61ST SESSION WITH THE FINAL DECISION ON WHETHER TO HOLD SUCH CONFERENCE BEING TAKEN BY THE 31ST UNGA. WE SEE NO REASON FOR THIS ORDERLY PROGRESSION TO BE DISTURBED.

3. RE OPERATIVE PARA 3 OF GROS DRAFT RES, WE ASSUME THAT SYG WOULD CONSIDER IN INDIVIDUAL CASES MERIT OR OTHERWISE OF BREACHING GENERAL PRINCIPLE OF BIENNIAL SESSIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION ACCORDINGLY TO ECOSOC. THIS PARA THEREFORE APPEARS GRATUITOUS TO US.

4. QUESTION OF PERIODICITY OF ACASTD MEETINGS (STATE 167134) BASED ON ACASTD'S STATUS AS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WHICH NOT IN SAME CATEGORY AS INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, SUCH AS CSTD AND COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES TO WHICH GENERAL PRINCIPLE OF BIENNIAL SESSIONS MORE APTLY RELATES. WHILE WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE BIENNIAL MEETINGS OF ECOSOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES WE SEE CONSIDERABLE MERIT IN PERMITTING ACASTD, PARTICULARLY DURING PRESENT PERIOD WHEN QUESTIONS WITHIN ACASTD FRAME OF REFERENCE RECEIVING HEAVY EMPHASIS IN UN SYSTEM GENERALLY, TO MEET ANNUALLY. DELEGATION SHOULD THEREFORE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED STATE 167134 WITH REGARD TO ACASTD.

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